

7.2 Factors that Influence Youth Culture



Adolescence

- The experience of Adolescence is affected by:



ETHNICITY

"We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools."

Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 - 1968)



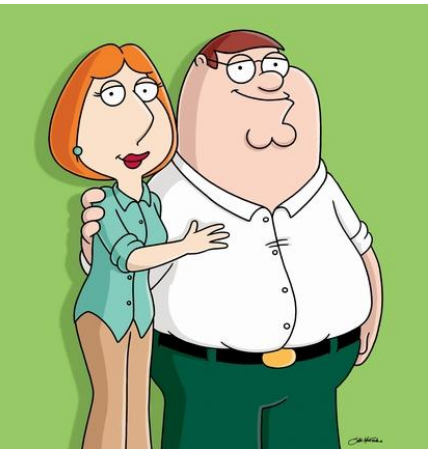
Gender



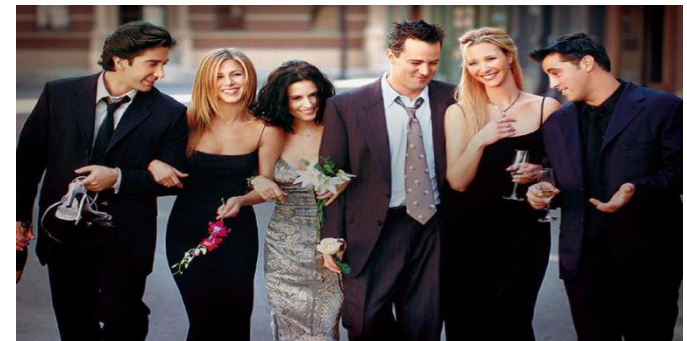
Socio Economic
Status

Adolescence

- Some psychologists believe that most youths proceed through a series of developmental changes
- During these changes their primary influences on their lives shift away from



Parents ^{to} →



F.R.I.E.N.D.S

Psychological Factors and Developmental Trends

- A major factor leading to the existence of the “youth culture” is the fact that adolescents pull away from their parents to establish their own identities
- This process is a **developmental trend** meaning that it is a “normal” life cycle process through which adolescents journey

Psychological Factors and Developmental Trends

- One explanation of how this process works was identified by psychologist Erik Erikson
- He believed that humans have to resolve different conflicts as they progress through each stage of development in the life cycle

Psychological Factors and Developmental Trends

- During the adolescence stage , teens must try and figure out who they are
- This conflict is notes as the **identity crisis**
- Erikson argues that in order for teens to establish a sense of identity they must engage in exploration to find their own person

Psychological Factors and Developmental Trends

- They can experiment in many ways:



Psychological Factors and Developmental Trends

- According to Erikson there are two potential outcomes to the identity search crisis:

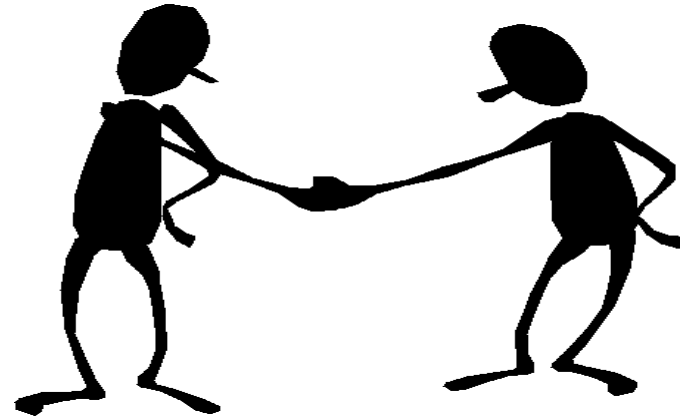
Identity Achievement

- One who has a firm sense of self after engaging in a long search full of exploration
- Characteristics of this person

Psychological Factors and Developmental Trends



High Self Esteem



Socially Skilled



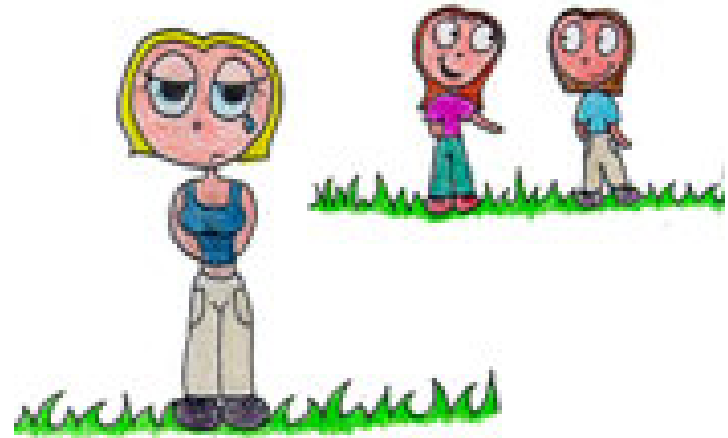
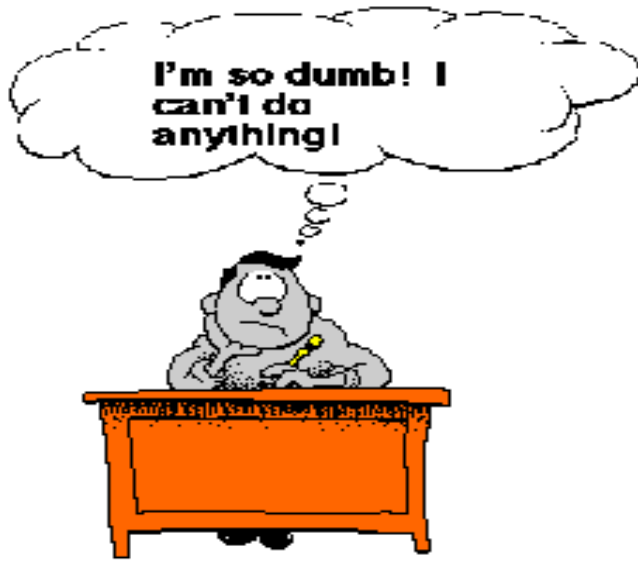
Doing Well in Life

Psychological Factors and Developmental Trends

Identity Diffused

- This person has not been able to achieve their own sense of identity
- This person is likely to have:

Psychological Factors and Developmental Trends



Low self esteem

Trouble making friends



Less successful

Psychological Factors and Developmental Trends

- In 1967, psychologist Peter Blos introduced the term **Seperation Individuation Process**
- This explains how teens gradually pull away from their parents and become independent.
- He believes this to be one of the most significant stages of an adolescent life

Psychological Factors and Developmental Trends

- At the start of adolescence the central position in their personal network



occupy
child's

- Gradually later on parents position in their child's social network is lessened by:

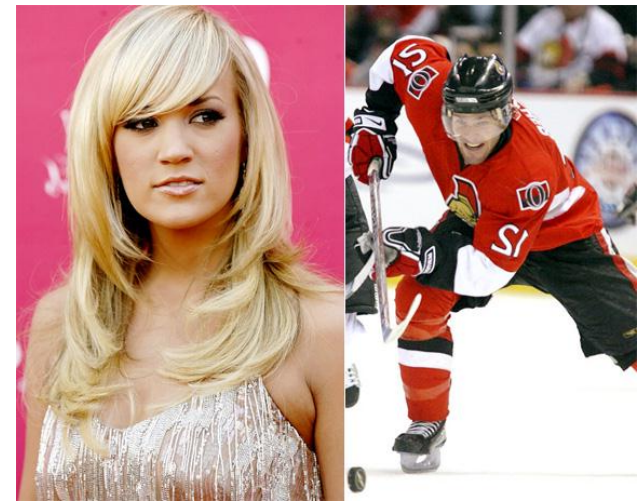


Friends & Mates



Psychological Factors and Developmental Trends

- In 1995, Dutch psychologist Maja Dekovic and Wim Meeus explored the concepts of how adolescent identities develop
- They found that we tend to use relationships outside our immediate families to derive our identities from



Psychological Factors and Developmental Trends



School identity develops around the age of 15 as well as occupational identity (knowing what you want to do later in life)

Psychological Factors and Developmental Trends

- For both males and females over the age of 21, what identity do you think is most important? Why?



Relationship
Identity

Socialization Within The Home

- **Socialization** is the process by which children are shaped into responsible members of society
- Self concept is an important factor in socialization. With regards to self concept there is significant importance given to **Gender Identity** (concept of maleness or femaleness)

Socialization Within The Home

- It is in the cultural of North American parents to be more protective of



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**FEMALE
CHILDREN**

Socialization Within The Home

- Also more permissive to



- As a result this leads males to be more independent and females to be more dependent.

Socialization Within the Home

- It is also found that teen males were shown favouritism with respect to

CURFEW



"What a silly misunderstanding - you meant I should be home by ten-thirty P.M.?"

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FAMILY CAR

Socialization Within The Home

- Another way gender identity is taught around the home is with regards to the household chores that parents give their children
- Males are generally given male duties



Outside the house

Socialization Within The Home

- While females are given duties



Inside the house

- Studies tell us that gender roles are learned as we grow up

Other Socialization Factors:

Role of Television

- Over time, peers, neighbours, school, and the media have an important impact on youth culture
- The average Canadian child watches 23 hours of television a week

Other Socialization Factors:

Role of Television

- The Canadian Paediatric Society believes that frequent tv watching is a problem because it takes away from activities such as:



Other Socialization Factors:

Role of Television

- There is also increased concern with



- But does television violence actually have a negative effect on attitudes and behaviour?

Other Socialization Factors: Role of Television

